MARVEL
DAREDEVIL
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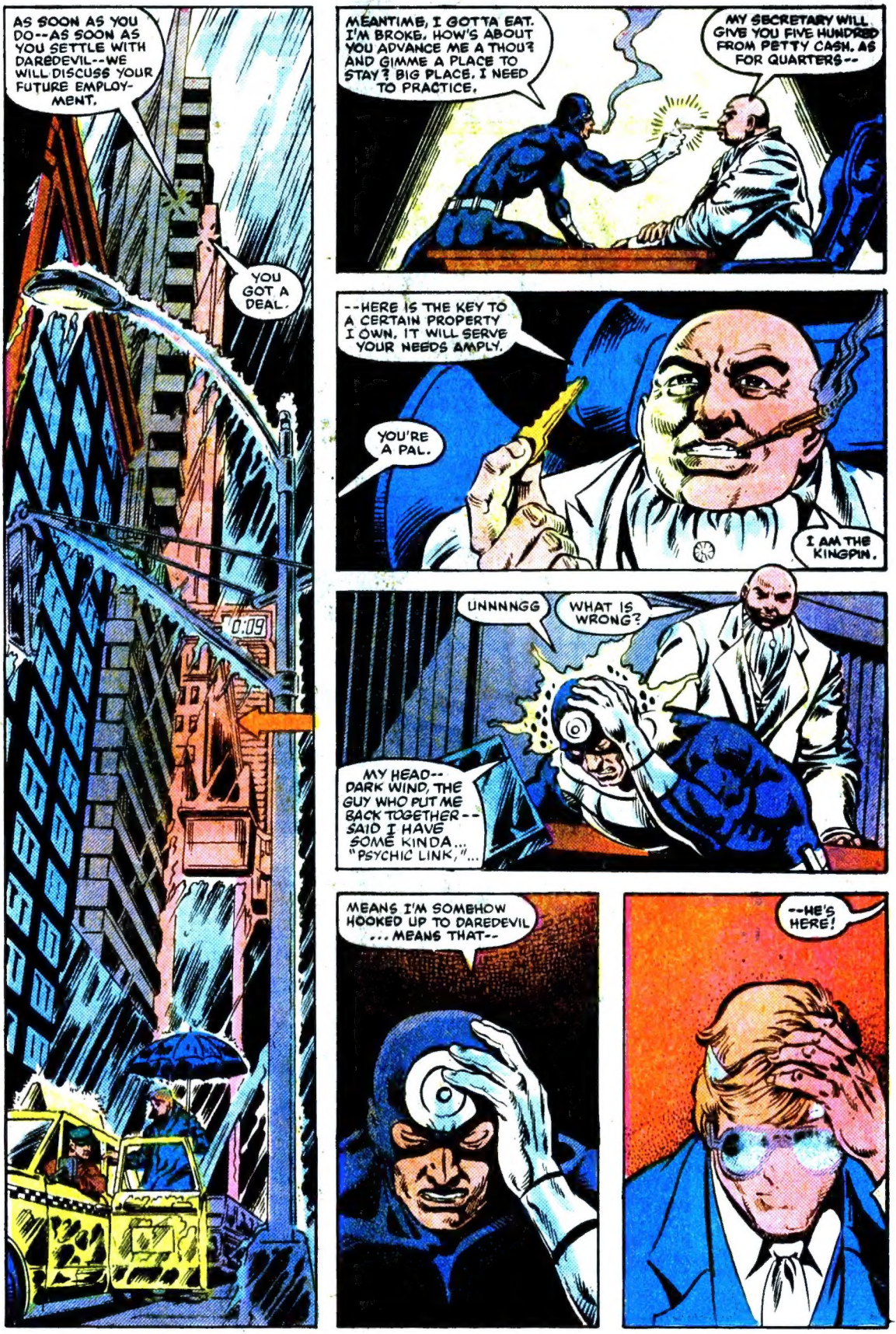
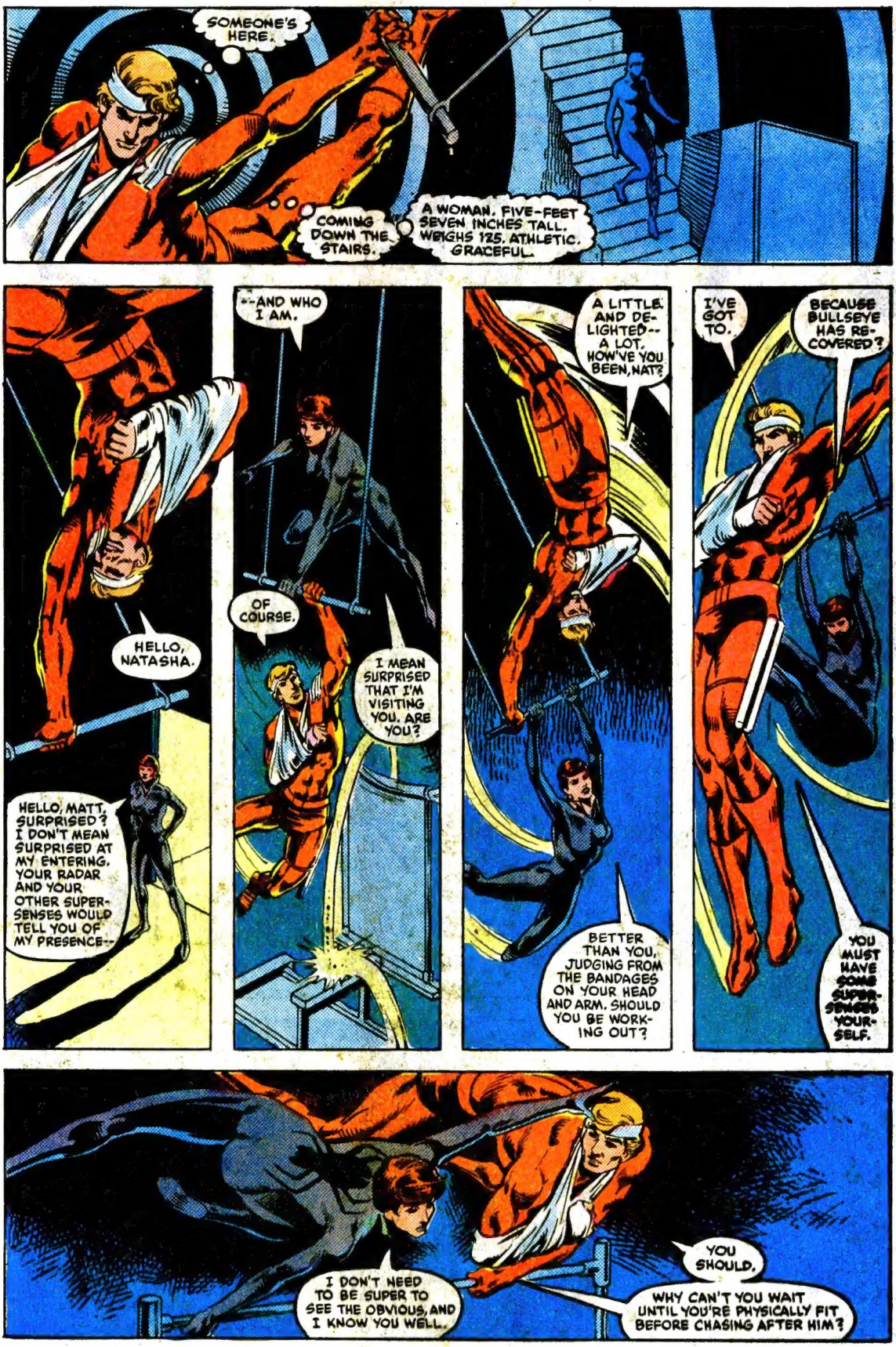
INDEED YOU ARE, BULLSEYE. I SEE YOUR SOJOURN IN JAPAN WAS SUCCESSFUL. YOU APPEAR FULLY RECOVERED FROM YOUR INJURIES.
YEAH, GOOD AS NEW. GUESS YOU KNOW WHY I'M HERE.
YOU WANT YOUR OLD JOB.
RIGHT. YOU NEED A HIT MAN AND I'M THE BEST THERE EVER WAS.
SECOND BEST. ELEKTRA WAS BETTER. HOWEVER, THAT DOES NOT MATTER. THE IMPORTANT THING IS YOUR UNFINISHED BUSINESS.
DAREDEVIL.
HEY, KINGPIN... NO PROBLEM. I LEFT HIM BACK THERE WITH THE JAPANESE. THEY WERE GONNA TAKE CARE OF HIM FOR ME.
SURELY YOU DO NOT BELIEVE THEY DID! SURELY YOU DO NOT HOLD DAREDEVIL'S ABILITIES IN SUCH LOW ESTEEM.
NOT YOU, OF ALL PEOPLE.
OKAY, OKAY, HE GAVE ME A COUPLE ROUGH TIMES, BUT THAT'S HISTORY. HE SHOWS UP, I'LL HANDLE HIM.
YOU'LL HAVE TO.


AS SOON AS YOU DO--AS SOON AS YOU SETTLE WITH DAREDEVIL--WE WILL DISCUSS YOUR FUTURE EMPLOY-MENT.
YOU GOT A DEAL.
0:09
MEANTIME, I GOTTA EAT. I'M BROKE. HOW'S ABOUT YOU ADVANCE ME A THOU? AND GIMME A PLACE TO STAY? BIG PLACE. I NEED TO PRACTICE.
MY SECRETARY WILL GIVE YOU FIVE HUNDRED FROM PETTY CASH. AS FOR QUARTERS--
--HERE IS THE KEY TO A CERTAIN PROPERTY I OWN. IT WILL SERVE YOUR NEEDS AMPLY.
YOU'RE A PAL.
I AM THE KINGPIN.
UNNNNGG
WHAT IS WRONG?
MY HEAD-- DARK WIND, THE GUY WHO PUT ME BACK TOGETHER-- SAID I HAVE SOME KINDA... "PSYCHIC LINK,"...
MEANS I'M SOMEHOW HOOKED UP TO DAREDEVIL ... MEANS THAT--
--HE'S HERE!

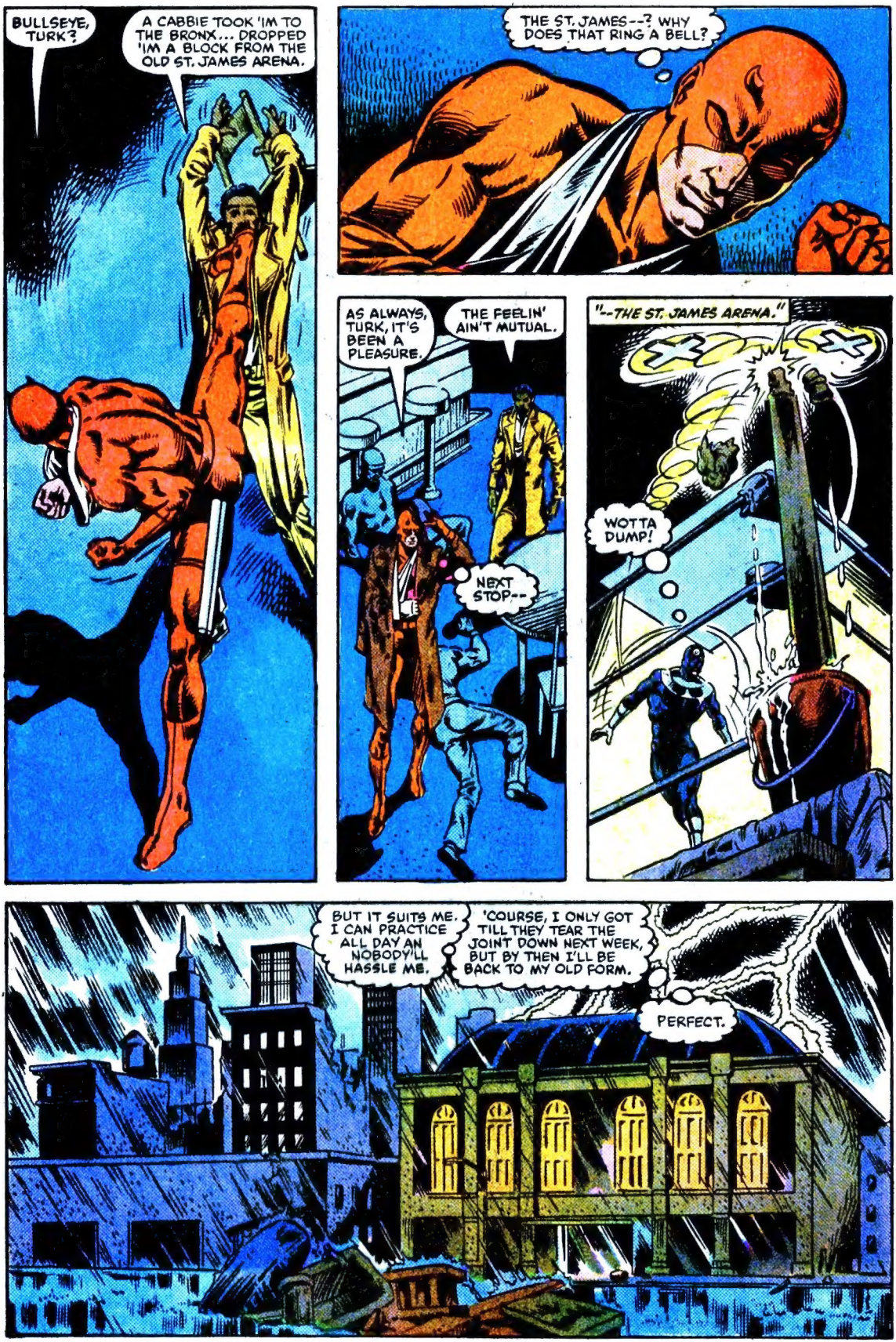
MY FRIEND AND PARTNER, MATT MURDOCK-- THAT'S HIM.
NICE TALKING TO YOU. 'SCUSE ME.
MATT...
HEY, MATT!
HELLO, FOGGY.
HOW WAS JAPAN? HEY, WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR ARM?
WOULD YOU BELIEVE AN EARTHQUAKE?
ALWAYS THE KIDDER, HUH, MATT?
NOTICE ANYTHING DIFFERENT ABOUT ME?
OH, GOSH... I'M SORRY. I FORGOT--
--THAT I'M BLIND. AS I'VE SAID BEFORE, I WISH YOU WOULD FORGET--PERMANENTLY.
WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN NEW YORK?
WELL, LESSEE ...IT'S BEEN WET. WE'VE HAD A RECORD RAINFALL--
--WETTEST SPRING SINCE 1885. THINGS ARE NORMAL AT THE OFFICE.

AND OH, YEAH. THAT POLICE COMMISSIONER, THAT GUY TARKINGTON BROWN -- HE DIED.
TOO BAD. HE SEEMED LIKE A GOOD MAN.
SO WHAT'S THE PROGRAM, MATT? WHAT SAY WE HIT SMOKEY'S AND GET SOME RIBS AND POTATO SALAD AND PECAN PIE--
THANKS, BUT I FEEL A LITTLE JET-LAGGED. I THINK I'LL HIT THE SACK.
I'LL BE IN THE OFFICE TOMORROW --OR THE NEXT DAY.
OKAY, MATT.
GEE...HE NEVER DID TELL ME HOW HE HURT HIS ARM.
THEN, IN THE BASEMENT GYM OF MATT MURDOCK'S HOUSE--
GOT TO TEST MYSELF ...LEARN HOW BADLY MY INJURIES IMPAIR ME.
USING ONLY ONE ARM THROWS OFF MY BALANCE ...MUST LEARN TO COMPENSATE. SHIFT MY CENTER OF GRAVITY--


SOMEONE'S HERE.
COMING DOWN THE STAIRS.
A WOMAN. FIVE-FEET SEVEN INCHES TALL. WEIGHS 125. ATHLETIC. GRACEFUL.
HELLO, NATASHA.
HELLO, MATT. SURPRISED? I DON'T MEAN SURPRISED AT MY ENTERING. YOUR RADAR AND YOUR OTHER SUPER-SENSES WOULD TELL YOU OF MY PRESENCE--
--AND WHO I AM.
OF COURSE.
I MEAN SURPRISED THAT I'M VISITING YOU. ARE YOU?
A LITTLE. AND DE-LIGHTED-- A LOT. HOW'VE YOU BEEN, NAT?
BETTER THAN YOU, JUDGING FROM THE BANDAGES ON YOUR HEAD AND ARM. SHOULD YOU BE WORK-ING OUT?
I'VE GOT TO.
BECAUSE BULLSEYE HAS RE-COVERED?
YOU MUST HAVE SOME SUPER-SENSES YOUR-SELF.
I DON'T NEED TO BE SUPER TO SEE THE OBVIOUS, AND I KNOW YOU WELL.
YOU SHOULD.
WHY CAN'T YOU WAIT UNTIL YOU'RE PHYSICALLY FIT BEFORE CHASING AFTER HIM?

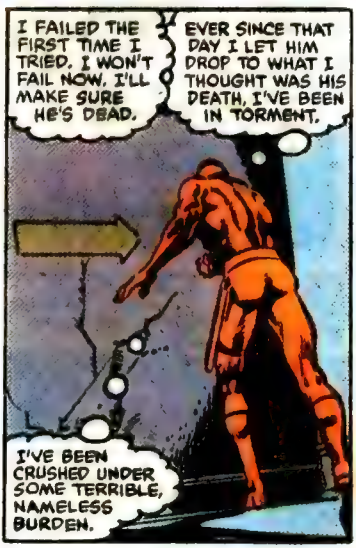
NO! THIS THING WITH BULLSEYE HAS GONE ON TOO LONG! HE'S DONE TOO MUCH--
HE TOOK ELEKTRA FROM YOU.
YES, HE DID. HE'S KILLED A LOT OF PEOPLE.
HE WON'T KILL ANY MORE. I'LL FINISH HIM-- NOW, TODAY.
THEN ALL I CAN SAY IS BE CAREFUL.
I'LL TRY.
EVEN THOUGH WE ARE NO LONGER... INVOLVED, I STILL CARE FOR YOU.
YOU'RE A GOOD LADY, BLACK WIDOW.
AND YOU'RE A GOOD MAN.
LATER, IN LOWER MANHATTAN, NEAR THE DOCKS...
DO YOU BELIEVE THIS RAIN?
GOOD FOR THE FARMERS.
HOW DO YOU KNOW, GROTTO? YOU AIN'T NEVER SEEN A FARMER.
I DID TOO. ON A CHARLIE'S ANGELS RERUN. SEE, CHRIS DISAPPEARED AND THEY WENT TO THIS FARM--
SHADDAP, GROTTO.

DON'T LISTEN TO HIM, GROTTO. YOU CAN TALK ALL YOU WANT. FOR INSTANCE, YOU CAN TELL ME WHERE BULLSEYE MIGHT BE.
THAT VOICE--!
IT'S HIM! IT'S DAREDEVIL!
LONG TIME NO SEE, TURK.
LOOKIT HIS ARM!
DAREDEVIL WITH A BUSTED WING! HOW DO YA LIKE THAT, GUYS?
I LIKE IT PLENTY!
CHRISTMAS COME EARLY THIS YEAR!
DON'T LET 'IM RUN.
I HAVE NO INTENTION OF RUNNING.
CHOK
CHOK
CHOK


BULLSEYE, TURK?
A CABBIE TOOK 'IM TO THE BRONX... DROPPED 'IM A BLOCK FROM THE OLD ST. JAMES ARENA.
THE ST. JAMES--? WHY DOES THAT RING A BELL?
AS ALWAYS, TURK, IT'S BEEN A PLEASURE.
THE FEELIN' AIN'T MUTUAL.
NEXT STOP--
"--THE ST. JAMES ARENA."
WOTTA DUMP!
BUT IT SUITS ME. I CAN PRACTICE ALL DAY AN NOBODY'LL HASSLE ME.
'COURSE, I ONLY GOT TILL THEY TEAR THE JOINT DOWN NEXT WEEK, BUT BY THEN I'LL BE BACK TO MY OLD FORM.
PERFECT.

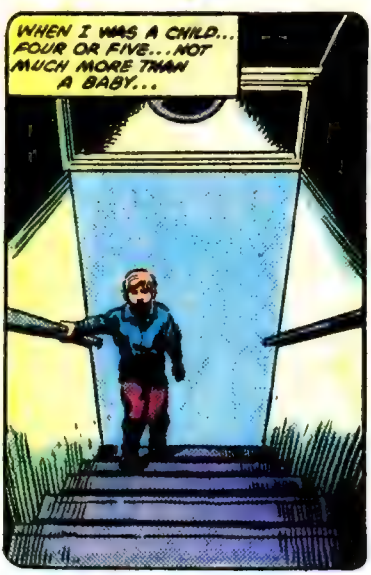
PERFECT. SMELL OF DECAY. SOUND OF RATS' FEET. SENSE OF DESOLATION.
NOBODY AROUND. NOBODY TO INTERFERE--

TONIGHT
RED DEVIL
--WHEN I'M KILLING BULLSEYE.


I FAILED THE FIRST TIME I TRIED. I WON'T FAIL NOW. I'LL MAKE SURE HE'S DEAD.
EVER SINCE THAT DAY I LET HIM DROP TO WHAT I THOUGHT WAS HIS DEATH, I'VE BEEN IN TORMENT.
I'VE BEEN CRUSHED UNDER SOME TERRIBLE, NAMELESS BURDEN.

TONIGHT WILL BE MY DELIVERANCE.

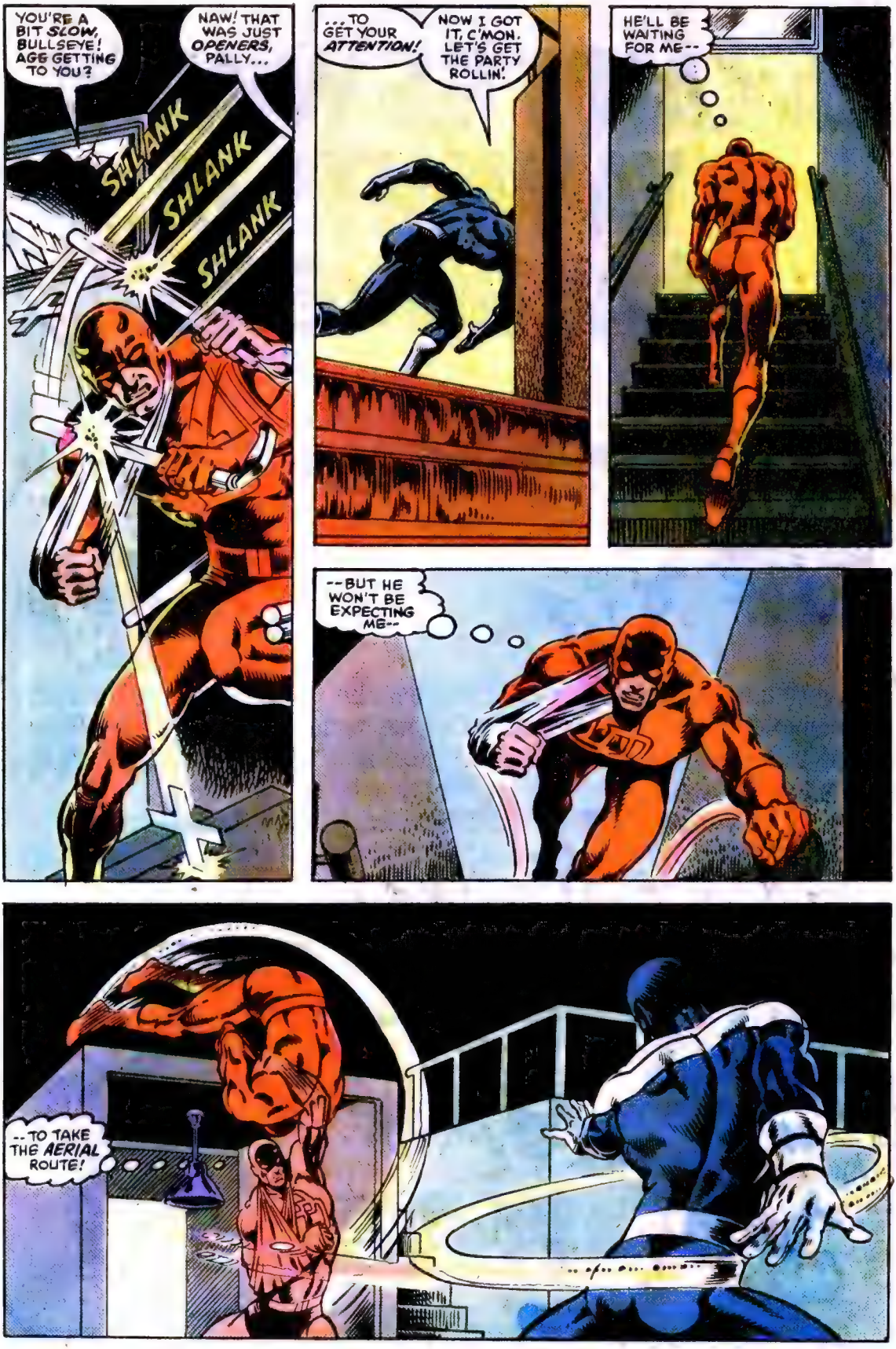
SOMETHING FAMILIAR ABOUT THE ANGLE OF THESE STEPS... AND THE ODOR OF THE WET CONCRETE.
I'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE.

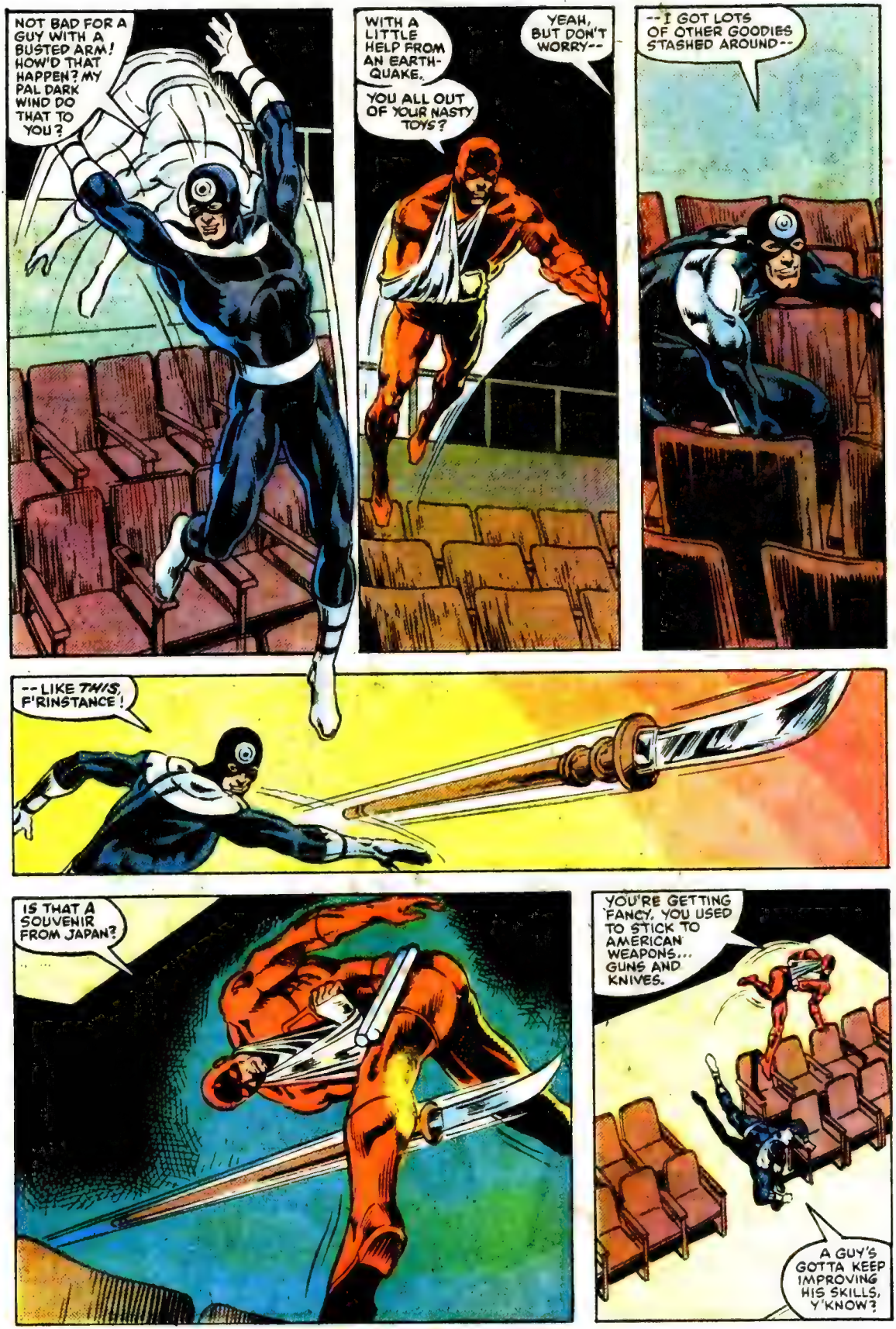

WHEN I WAS A CHILD... FOUR OR FIVE... NOT MUCH MORE THAN A BABY...

I WAS HERE TO WATCH MY FATHER... NOT FIGHT, NOT BOX--
--NO, THAT NIGHT HE WAS WRESTLING. HE WAS--
OH, DEAR LORD, HOW COULD I HAVE FORGOTTEN IT ALL THESE YEARS? HE WAS WEARING A COSTUME... A DEVIL COSTUME--
--AND HE WAS WRESTLING...
LATER, I WENT TO SEE HIM IN THE LOCKER ROOM. HE WAS SEATED ALL ALONE AND SOMEHOW HE LOOKED SMALLER...
HE WAS CRYING.
I'D NEVER SEEN HIM DO THAT BEFORE, I'D SELDOM SEEN HIM SHOW ANY EMOTION.

LISTEN, KID, WHAT YOU SEEN OUT THERE TONIGHT ...FORGET IT. 'CAUSE THAT WAS SOMETHIN' I DIDN'T WANNA DO.
I HAD TO, I HAD TO EARN MONEY. YOU BEEN SICK AND THERE'S BILLS LEFT OVER FROM YOUR MA AND MY MANAGER AIN'T BEEN GETTIN' ME FIGHTS.
SO I HAD TO PUT ON THIS STUPID SUIT AND MAKE A FOOL OF MYSELF.
BUT I'LL NEVER DO IT AGAIN... NO MATTER WHAT.
LISTEN TO ME KID...LISTEN GOOD, I'M A FIGHTER AND THAT AIN'T MUCH. IT AIN'T A PROFESSION I'M REAL PROUD OF, AND IF YOU EVER EVEN THINK ABOUT IT YOURSELF, I'LL BEAT YOU BLACK AND BLUE.
BUT IT'S WHAT I DO AND I TRY TO DO IT AS BEST I CAN. I TRY TO DO IT...
...HONORABLY, THAT'S THE WORD I'M LOOKIN' FOR.
WELL, TONIGHT I DISGRACED FIGHTIN' AND I DISGRACED MYSELF AND THERE AIN'T NO MONEY IN THE WORLD CAN PAY FOR THAT.
KID, THERE'S NEVER A REASON FOR NOT BEIN' WHAT YOU ARE.
ALL THESE YEARS...
TALKIN' TO YOURSELF, CHUMP?

BULLSEYE!
LIVE AN' IN PERSON! TO SAY NOTHIN' OF GLOWIN' COLOR.
I WAS AFRAID OF THIS MOMENT... NOT BECAUSE I FEAR YOU, BUT BECAUSE THE PAST SEVERAL WEEKS I'VE FELT SOMEHOW CONNECTED TO YOU.
I WAS AFRAID THAT CONNECTION WOULD OVERWHELM ME... THAT I'D BE OVERCOME WITH COMPASSION...
I'M NOT.
ME EITHER, PALLY! AN' TO PROVE IT--
I'M GONNA DEAL YOU THESE LITTLE GIMMICKS! I EVER SHOW YOU THESE?


YOU'RE A BIT SLOW, BULLSEYE! AGE GETTING TO YOU?
NAW! THAT WAS JUST OPENERS, PALLY...
SHLANK
SHLANK
SHLANK
...TO GET YOUR ATTENTION!
NOW I GOT IT, C'MON. LET'S GET THE PARTY ROLLIN'.
HE'LL BE WAITING FOR ME--
--BUT HE WON'T BE EXPECTING ME--
--TO TAKE THE AERIAL ROUTE!


NOT BAD FOR A GUY WITH A BUSTED ARM! HOW'D THAT HAPPEN? MY PAL DARK WIND DO THAT TO YOU?
WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM AN EARTH-QUAKE.
YEAH, BUT DON'T WORRY--
YOU ALL OUT OF YOUR NASTY TOYS?
--I GOT LOTS OF OTHER GOODIES STASHED AROUND--
--LIKE THIS, F'RINSTANCE!
IS THAT A SOUVENIR FROM JAPAN?
YOU'RE GETTING FANCY. YOU USED TO STICK TO AMERICAN WEAPONS... GUNS AND KNIVES.
A GUY'S GOTTA KEEP IMPROVING HIS SKILLS, Y'KNOW?

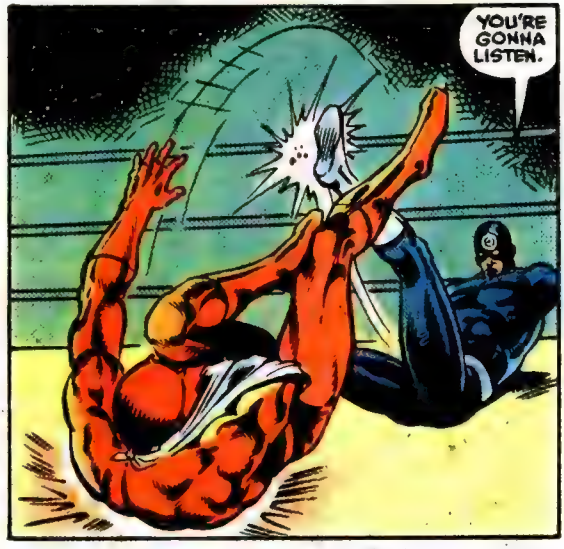
SPEAKING OF STRANGE WEAPONS, I GOT SOMETHING UP HERE YOU OUGHTTA BE INTERESTED IN--
RECOGNIZE THIS? IT BELONGED TO ELEKTRA. I RAN ONE JUST LIKE IT STRAIGHT THROUGH HER.
YOU SHOULDA HEARD HER, PAL--
--WHIMPERED LIKE A BABY.
WHATSA MATTER--
--CAT GOT YOUR TONGUE?

AGHII!
PRETTY GOOD! ALMOST AS GOOD AS I WOULD HAVE DONE IT. ONLY I WOULD HAVE AIMED FOR THE HEART.
I DID. I MISSED.
TZOK

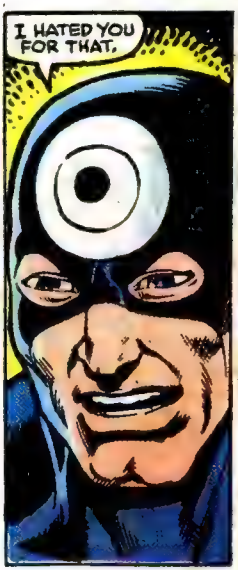
YOU JUST MADE YOUR LAST MISTAKE, CHUMP. YOU SHOULD HAVE KNOCKED ME INTO THE OTHER CORNER--

--WHERE I DIDN'T HAVE THIS!
BAMM

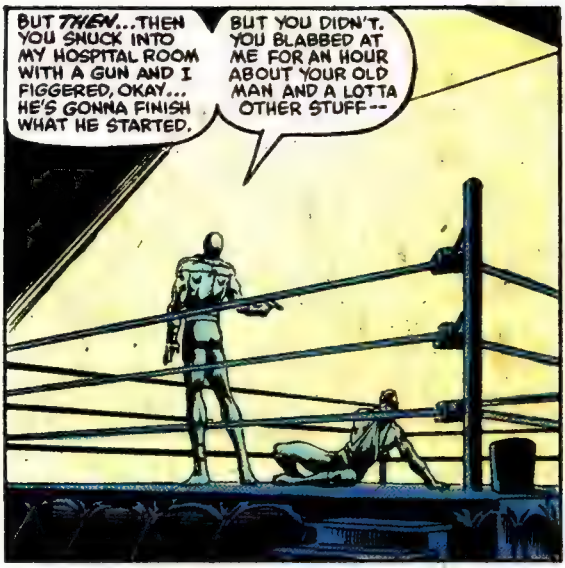
'COURSE, I COULDA PUT THAT ONE BETWEEN YOUR EYES, BUT I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU A LITTLE MORE.


YOU'RE GONNA LISTEN.

'MEMBER THAT TIME YOU PULLED ME OUTTA THE WAY OF THE SUBWAY TRAIN? SAVED MY LIFE?

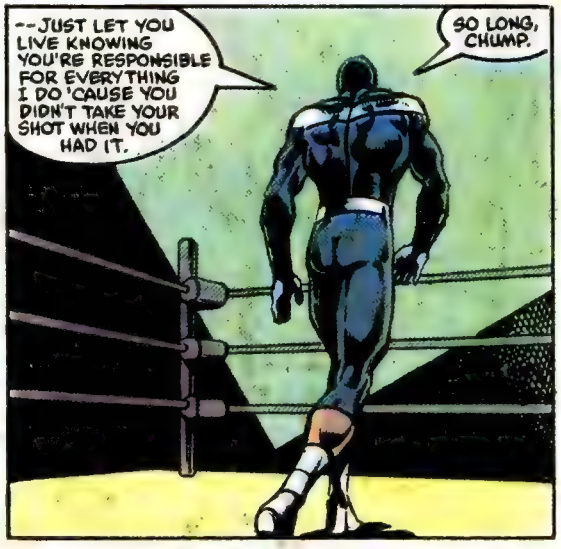

I HATED YOU FOR THAT.

I DIDN'T WANT YOU DOIN' ME NO FAVORS.
THEN YOU DROPPED ME FROM THE TOP OF THAT WIRE AFTER I ICED ELEKTRA... SHATTERED MY SPINE.
THAT WAS OKAY.


BUT THEN... THEN YOU SNUCK INTO MY HOSPITAL ROOM WITH A GUN AND I FIGGERED, OKAY... HE'S GONNA FINISH WHAT HE STARTED.
BUT YOU DIDN'T. YOU BLABBED AT ME FOR AN HOUR ABOUT YOUR OLD MAN AND A LOTTA OTHER STUFF--

--AND YOU WALKED AWAY WITHOUT SHOOTING. TREATED ME LIKE DIRT...LIKE I WASN'T WORTH KILLING.
WELL, I'M DOING THE SAME FOR YOU--

--LETTING YOU LIVE. ONLY EVERY TIME I DO A JOB--EVERY TIME I ICE SOMEBODY--I'M GONNA MAKE SURE YOU HEAR ABOUT IT.
I KNOW YOU, PAL. I'VE BEEN INSIDE YOUR HEAD. AND THAT'S THE WORST THING I CAN DO TO YOU--


--JUST LET YOU LIVE KNOWING YOU'RE RESPONSIBLE FOR EVERYTHING I DO 'CAUSE YOU DIDN'T TAKE YOUR SHOT WHEN YOU HAD IT.
SO LONG, CHUMP.

NO!

TUNKK
NO MORE--
--YOU HEAR ME?
NO MORE!
IT ENDS, BULLSEYE... HERE AND NOW, IT HAS TO END!

HERE AND NOW...
...FORGET IT, KID.
...I DISGRACED MYSELF AND THERE AIN'T NO MONEY IN THE WORLD CAN PAY FOR THAT... THERE'S NEVER A REASON FOR NOT BEIN' WHAT YOU ARE...
I'M NO KILLER.

Bullpen Bulletins

¡BUENOS DIAS!

Guess who was a guest of honor at the 3rd Annual *Salón del Comic y la Ilustración*, Barcelona, Spain's huge, international comics convention? *¡Si, yo!* Yes, me!

Hundreds of comics professionals and thousands upon thousands of fans turned out. What a show!

Representatives of dozens of comics publishers from around the world showed up there, too. Because many of them publish translated editions of Marvel Comics, our work is known almost everywhere, and I was pleased to discover that Marvel and the Marvel creative crew are held in very high regard overseas. As Editor in Chief of Marvel, I was very warmly received and treated with a great deal of respect at the fair. I felt very proud and extremely honored!

In Spain, many Marvel titles are published by *Editorial Forum*, a very prestigious publishing house – and they do a terrific job with our stuff (as well as their own). My counterpart at *Forum*, their Editor in Chief, is a very knowledgeable, skilled and professional gentleman named Antonio Martin, with whom I spoke several times. I'd like to take this opportunity to publically declare Antonio and his crew Honorary Bullpenners!

HOME AGAIN.

...for about thirty seconds, then it was off to Tulsa, Oklahoma to appear at *Tulsa Con '83*, hosted by the Tulsa Believers in Comics Fandom. That, my friends, is one terrific group of people, and they throw an outstanding convention. If you're interested in joining a great, active, downright *fun* comics club, or if you'd like info on their next event, write to the club president at this address:

Larry Thomas
3836 East 21st
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74114

Oh, and by the way, Tulsa is the hometown of *EPIC Illustrated Magazine* Editorial Director, *Archie Goodwin*. He would have pouted all day if I hadn't mentioned that.

HOME AGAIN AGAIN!

For a whole couple of weeks this time. You know, there's something funny going on around this place. As you may have heard, me and *all* of the Marvel editors are going away to conventions during the month of August. That means that all of the comics which go on sale in September, bearing a January cover date, will be handled entirely by the seconds-in-command – the *assistant editors*. So, around here, the month of the September-on-sale-January-cover-date issues has become known as *Assistant Editors' Month*.

Now, those guys could, and probably *should* just caretake the books for that one month; but rumor has it that they've planned a whole bunch of... let's say *unusual* stuff. They're trying to, in one month, *revolutionize* comics...

Apparently they've enlisted the cooperation of the artists and writers because there are a *lot* of very secret, closed-door meetings going on around here lately, and, nobody, but *nobody* is letting on to the editors or me what's planned for those January cover-date issues.

I'm not kidding. Assistant Editors' Month was an amusing notion, and we've all had some laughs talking about it, but I think it may be getting a little out of hand. I'm genuinely concerned about this and I may have to put my foot down and put a stop to it. What do you think? What would you do?

Just for your info, here's a list of the people I'm talking about

Danny Fingeroth's assistant	Bob Budiansky's assistant
BOB DeNATALE	MIKE HIGGINS
Amazing Spider-Man	*Fantastic Four*
Peter Parker	*Daredevil*
Marvel Team-Up	*Return of the Jedi*
Ka-Zar	

Mark Gruenwald's assistant	Carl Potts's assistant
MIKE CARLIN	ANN NOCENTI
Avengers	*Hulk*
Iron Man	*Defenders*
Thor	*Doctor Strange*
Captain America	*Fanfare*
	The Thing
Ralph Macchio's assistant	Larry Hama's assistant
BOB HARRAS	JIM OWSLEY
Dazzler	*Conan*
US!	*King Conan*
Micronauts	*Savage Sword*
What If	
ROM	
Crystar	
Denny O'Neil's assistant	Louise Jones' assistant
LINDA GRANT	ELIOT BROWN
Alpha Flight	*X-Men*
Power Man Iron Fist	*New Mutants*
G.I. Joe	*Star Wars*
Moon Knight	*Indiana Jones*

Those are the potential perpetrators – some of them you may know a little about from seeing a bit of their published writing, art, lettering, etc. — others are strictly unknown quantities to you, since all their work has been behind the scenes. Tell me, would *you* haul the lot of them up short and squelch their plans? Or trust them, and see what comes out in September? It may be too late already to do anything else.

Those January cover date issues may be some real one-of-a-kind collectors' items.

Anyway, stay well!

Jim Shooter

THE HYPE BOX

THOR ANNUAL #11 — Ever wonder what it's like to grow up in Asgard? It can sure be a blast, but it certainly isn't easy, especially if you happen to be the god of thunder. ALAN ZELENENTZ, BOB HALL, and VINCE COLLETTA reveal the early life of the mighty **Thor** for the first time, from his birth to the appearance of **Don Blake**. Don't miss this one!

DEFENDERS #125 — A cataclysmic shake-up in the world's greatest non-team. The Defenders must disband in order to save the Earth, but is mankind ready for the *new* Defenders? Who are they? Well, three of 'em used to be **X-Men**! The rest – well, you'll have to see for yourself in this very special double-sized issue, by J.M. DeMATTEIS, DON PERLIN, and KIM DeMULDER, with an original cover *painting* by BILL SIEKIEWICZ.

X-MEN #175 — Is Madelyne Pryor really Jean Grey? Is she **Dark Phoenix**? Are you crazy enough to even *consider* missing this issue? It's double-sized, double excitement, and PAUL SMITH's final issue of the mag before JOHN ROMITA, JR. comes aboard. Written by CHRIS CLAREMONT. Inked by BOB WIACEK.

THE FALCON #1 (Limited Series) — The Falcon like you've never seen him, in a story like Marvel's never done before! A hard-hitting and gritty account of life on the city streets by JIM OWSLEY, PAUL SMITH, and VINCE COLLETTA.

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

- ☐ **THE THING #5**
- ☐ **DAREDEVIL #200**
- ☐ **NEW MUTANTS #9**
- ☐ **DAZZLER #29**
- ☐ **KING CONAN #19**
- ☐ **RETURN OF THE JEDI #2 (Limited Series)**
- ☐ **THE FALCON #1 (Limited Series)**
- ☐ **MOON KNIGHT SPECIAL EDITION #1** – Reprinting the original **Moon Knight** epics, by DOUG MOENCH and BILL SIENKIEWICZ, from the **Hulk Magazine.**
- ☐ **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #246**
- ☐ **CAPTAIN AMERICA #287**
- ☐ **THOR #337**
- ☐ **INDIANA JONES #11**
- ☐ **MOON KNIGHT #34**
- ☐ **MICRONAUTS #55**
- ☐ **CRYSTAR #4**
- ☐ **HAWKEYE #3 (Limited Series)**
- ☐ **INCREDIBLE HULK #289**
- ☐ **AVENGERS #237**
- ☐ **CONAN THE BARBARIAN #152**
- ☐ **MARVEL TALES #157** — Reprinting **Amazing Spider-Man #19** by STAN LEE and STEVE DITKO, "Spidey Strikes Back!"
- ☐ **X-MEN #175**
- ☐ **ROM #48**
- ☐ **POWER MAN/IRON FIST #99**
- ☐ **G.I. JOE #17**
- ☐ **CLOAK & DAGGER #2 (Limited Series)**
- ☐ **FANTASTIC FOUR #260**
- ☐ **MARVEL TEAM-UP #135** — Spider-Man and Kitty Pryde
- ☐ **IRON MAN #176**
- ☐ **DEFENDERS #125**
- ☐ **PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #84**
- ☐ **STAR WARS #77**
- ☐ **ALPHA FLIGHT #4**
- ☐ **THE OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE #11**
- ☐ **MARVEL TAILS #1** – Funny animals — Marvel style! Featuring the origin of the **Hulk-Bunny**! By TOM DeFALCO, MARK ARMSTRONG, and JOE ALBELO.
- ☐ **KRULL #1 (Limited Series)** – Marvel's adaptation of the Columbia Pictures summertime smash space fantasy! By DAVID MICHELINIE and BRET BLEVINS. Inks by VINCE COLLETTA.

MARVEL ANNUALS

- ☐ **IRON MAN ANNUAL #6 — Iron Man** reduced to a pawn in the struggle between the **Eternals** and the **Deviants.**
- ☐ **THOR ANNUAL #11** – For the first time in one comic: the story of **Thor's** life, from birth to the arrival of **Don Blake.**

MARVEL MAGAZINES

- ☐ **SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #93**
- ☐ **MARVEL AGE #8**
- ☐ **BLIP #8**
- ☐ **MARVEL FANFARE #11**

EPIC COMICS

- ☐ **EPIC ILLUSTRATED #20**
- ☐ **DREADSTAR #6**

THE BURDEN I'VE BEEN FEELING ALL THESE MONTHS...IT'S NOT THAT I DIDN'T SUCCEED IN KILLING YOU.
IT'S THAT I TRIED TO.
I'M NOT A KILLER.
THERE'S A WANTED MAN INSIDE...MURDERER. HE WON'T GIVE YOU ANY TROUBLE. HE'S UNCONSCIOUS.
YOU LOOK PRETTY BAD. YOU BETTER GET TO A DOCTOR. I'LL CALL AN AMBULANCE--
NO AMBULANCE. I'LL BE FINE.
DAREDEVIL
END

DEVIL'S ADVOCATE

% MARVEL COMICS GROUP
387 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10016

LINDA GRANT
EDITOR

Dear Denny and Linda:

DAREDEVIL #197 was superb. As is the case with any fine story, it left me yearning for more — especially because of the last panel. That was quite a touching moment for both Daredevil and Yuriko (who I hope to hear a lot more about) as well as for the reader. People can't be told enough how important it is to see beyond fleshly images and to enjoy the beauty of the heart. And Daredevil's closing line drove that point home far better than any sermon or proverb ever will.

I'd also like to say that I truly like what Johnson and Mignola did on this story. If you keep issues of this calibre coming, you'll be stuck with this "devil's advocate" for a long, long time.

William Adkins, Jr.
1774 Marks Road
Valley City, OH 44280

Sounds good to us, William!

Dear Denny and Linda:

I was delighted to see the new art styles in DAREDEVIL #197. Bill Sienkiewicz did a beautiful cover, and William Johnson, fresh from MASTER OF KUNG FU, was offered a nice transition with this issue's oriental plotline. Mike Mignola's inks had a fine stability about them, which probably accounted for a good portion of my enjoyment.

The wistful ironies such as the one that ended "Journey," the foreign intrigue, and the continued stories that cadence rather than cliff-hang seem almost a return to the Denny O'Neil stories I grew up with in the early 1970's. Although, when we return to New York, I would like to see the supporting cast re-established and further developed.

Stephen Gawronski
6412 Arizona Ave.
Hammond, IN 46323

Exactly what we had in mind, Stephen!

Dear Denny and Linda:

After issue #191 I figured I would stop buying DAREDEVIL, but I tried out the next couple of issues. I loved them, but with Klaus Janson leaving the book, I figured the quality of the book would drop. But, when I saw Bill Sienkiewicz's cover on #197, I bought it. The interior art by William Johnson and Mike Mignola was superb! You've got a steady reader now!

Rick Davis
101 Ornida Drive
Beaver, PA 15009

Dear Linda:

I'd forgotten how exciting Denny's work can be. "Journey" in DD #197 was nothing short of fantastic. If this is a hint of what is to come in issue #200, I don't think I can stand to wait.

I was more than pleased by William Johnson's art. So far he looks to be a fine replacement for Klaus Janson. I wish William continued success on this book. I expect he'll continue to improve with each issue. He and Mike Mignola have already made an impressive start.

Alicia Wu
851 S. Tantau Ave.
Cupertino, CA 95014

Thanks for the compliments on this issue's storyline and scripting, Alicia. Apparently it didn't please everyone...

Dear Denny and Linda:

I like William Johnson's style. I hope he will be on DAREDEVIL for a long time to come. Now on to more serious matters.

For myself, DD #197 was a disappointment. The best word to describe my feelings on this issue is "filler." Nothing of any serious consequence happened. Hopefully, my opinion will be considered more as constructive criticism than mere complaining. The majority of the book was spent in near pointless fight scenes. There was the hurling of dynamite, fast reflexes and the unavoidable explosion. There were even flashbacks and dreams of battles with Bullseye. It was all very "action-packed," but the substance of a typical O'Neil story wasn't there. Perhaps I should conclude this by stating that my complaints have been so rare that you might want to take this one to heart.

Adam Burchess
1315 Morreene Rd.
Durham, NC 27705

Dear Denny, Linda and William:

I would like to tell you how much I like the art in this issue of DAREDEVIL #197. I'm overjoyed to see that you have found someone who can keep the book at its present state of high quality. Mr. Johnson is truly talented and I hope he will stay with the book.

However, I detected a couple of minor flaws and I'm afraid they're worthy of a No-Prize. What am I referring to is on page 15. In panel 4 we see DD pick up a wrench (with his right hand). In the next panel the wrench is gone and DD is now gripping a railing (and a girl). That part I could handle, but on page 16 in panels 1 and 3 he still doesn't have the wrench... but in panels 4 and 5 he magically produces it and flings it at a spotlight while thinking to himself, "I figured this monkey wrench might come in handy." Also, I am wondering where Yuriko's chains went in panel 4 of page 16 and after she dove into the ocean?

Please don't get the wrong idea. I love the art and the story, but I think that by paying attention to the small details, the book will be even better than it is already. As long as Mr. Johnson draws DAREDEVIL, I will buy it.

Dean Brovold
1699 Wellesley Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55105

You got us, Dean — we just wish you had gotten us out of it!! While you're watching for your No-Prize, we'll be watching our step — very carefully!

Dear Linda and Denny:

I must commend the people involved in making DAREDEVIL #197. I found all aspects of this issue to be well done, and the story was exciting and captivating. William Johnson's penciling is fantastic. I am at a loss for superlatives to describe his art. I especially like his figures when they are in motion — the movements appear so real. In general, the art seems to flow and the transitions are well done.

I enjoyed the use of different lighting, including that in the dark fighting scene that takes place on the ship. The facial expressions conveyed the emotions and intensity of the various characters in a convincing manner. I think a suitable artist for DAREDEVIL has been found.

William Sardo
No Address

So do we, William. Thanks for writing and letting us know we made a good choice!

NEXT ISSUE: Someone's trying to murder Foggy Nelson... and Daredevil is too badly injured to do anything about it! But help is on the way — and *what* help! It's called "The Day the Devil Didn't Dare" and the *story* is even more offbeat than the title.